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Bangalore Mirror

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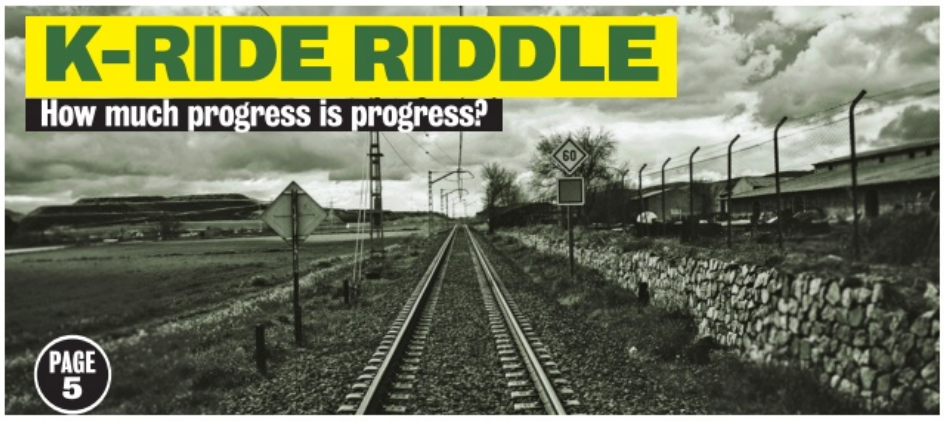

‘Nelamangala, Doddaballapura, Devanahalli, Hoskote see rapid surge in settlements alongside obliteration of green patches, water bodies’

MAXIMUM CITY

Devanahalli witnesses highest growth in settlements at 26.11%

| Garima Prasher
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Bengaluru’s rural taluks have sustained severe urban sprawl over the last two decades. A land use land cover analysis conducted by a group of researchers showed that the four rural taluks - Nelamangala, Doddaballapura, Devanahalli, Hoskote - have not only experienced a tremendous surge in the number of settlements but have also met with high obliteration of green patches and surface water bodies.

According to the study, that analysed urbanisation between 2001 and 2021, the area occupied by vegetation and surface water in these taluks plunged, while settlements, arid land, and agricultural land surged.

In 2001, while 891.87 sq km area across all four taluks (38.68% of the total area) was under green cover, it went down to 109.04 sq km (4.73%) in 2021. Settlements were seen only on 63.29 sq km in 2001 but now occupy 346.12 sq km.

Similarly, while 46.39 sq km of area (2.01%) was covered by water bodies two decades ago, only 11.17 sq km (0.48%) has surface water today. Overall, the area under water bodies decreased by 75.93% and green cover went down by 87.77%.

TOM FISK/PEXELS

> “We need to maintain 33% green cover to ensure there are enough resources to sustain us
> — Dr TV Ramachandra, IISc

Devanahalli experienced the highest growth in settlement (326.11%), followed by Nelamangala (253.68%), Hoskote (246.36%), and Doddaballapur (177.89%).

The study found the majority of the once-vegetated land has been turned over to agriculture and settlements, primarily because of the growth of the city and its inhabitants. All four taluks registered a significant increase in population due to their proximity to Bengaluru and their connectivity via state or national highways.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Months later, BIFFES winners still await cash prize

Best film to get Rs 10 lakh, second best to receive Rs 5 lakh, third to get Rs 3 lakh

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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The 14th edition of the Bengaluru International Film Festival was concluded on March 30 - award winners were felicitated with certificates on the occasion. However, cash prizes are yet to be presented to the winners six months after the event.

There were three categories of competition for movies at the Bengaluru International Film Festival — Asian, Kannada, and Chitrabharthi. Three movies from each category were adjudged as the first, second, and third best movies. While the best movie is eligible to get Rs 10 lakh cash award, the second best movie is eligible to receive Rs 5 lakh and the third best movie is to get Rs 3 lakh cash award. Veteran Kannada actor Doddanna was honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award. Doddanna is eligible to receive Rs 10 lakh cash award.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

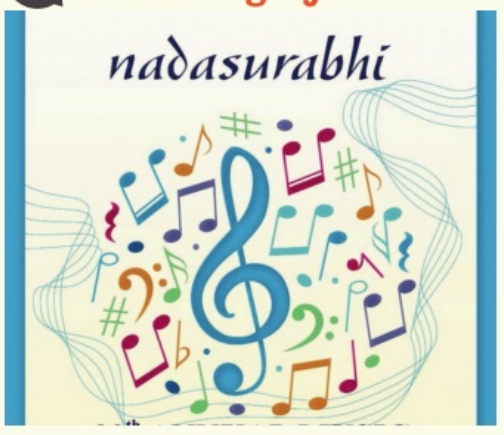
01 Cultural voyage

'Jo Dooba So Paar' by Ajitesh Gupta takes centre stage in October at the Ranga Shankara Theatre Festival. This play narrates Ameer Khusrau's incredible journey through music and Qawwali, inviting you to immerse in Sufi wisdom and eternal love. **Where: Ranga Shankara**
When: October 28, 7.30 pm

02 Enchanted evening

Step into a world of wonder at 'An Evening of Magic.' Hosted by the renowned mentalist Nakul Shenoy, it features top magicians for a mesmerising, unforgettable night of enchantment. **Where: Atta Galatta**
When: October 29, 6.00 pm

03 Musical legacy



Discover the city's rich musical heritage with Nadasurabhi, showcasing 30 years of Carnatic excellence. Enjoy free concerts, support emerging talents, and nurture young musicians.
Where: Hall No.1, St John's Medical College Campus; When: November 1 onwards

Farewell goddess

Ulsoor Lake transforms into a divine canvas as Durga idols find their final journey during the auspicious Navaratri Festival.

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Dasara's colourful triumph

Ten-day Dasara spectacle in B'luru concludes with grandeur

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For the past 10 days, Namma Bengaluru has radiated with the vibrant colours of Dasara, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. This year's Dasara celebration was truly spectacular, enchanting the hearts of both locals and visitors. Notably, the 10-day Dasara festival featured a plethora of festivities, truly earning its reputation as a festival of festivals.

Undoubtedly, the 'Jumbo Savari' in Mysuru stole the spotlight, accompanied by the traditional 'Ravana Dahan,' while numerous devotees also immersed Durga idols. The streets of Bengaluru bore witness to numerous religious processions that added to the festive fervour.

Priyam Mandal from The Icon Utsav Association said, "We celebrated our first Durga Puja this year. The idols and priests came from Bengal, and all the rituals were conducted according to the authentic ways of Bengal. The idea of starting this was to educate the next generation about the traditions and customs as they are detached from their roots.

We had Mata Ki Chowki and Lalitha Sahasranama so that we could all celebrate together. We want it to be a homely environment and not the usual commercialised style of celebration. The famous Dunchi Dance was performed by 60 women who practised for over two months."

On Monday, Bengalureans celebrated Ayudha Puja, the ninth day of Navaratri. Ayudha, meaning weapon or tool, is a celebration of gratitude for daily tools, equipment, and vehicles. They are adorned with flowers, vermilion, garlands, and more, seeking blessings from Goddess Durga for prosperity. To ward off evil spirits, white pumpkins, coconuts, and lemons are smashed in front of vehicles, offices, and houses. Shivaji Rao said, "We celebrate Ayudha Puja annually at our office, a grand festival to express gratitude to our tools, machines, and those who operate them."

The Gombe Habba, also known as the Festival of Dolls, captivated the community as families curated an enchanting array of dolls on multi-leveled platforms. "Each family selects a theme or mythological plot and sets up the dolls accordingly.

The dolls are arranged in levels, typically 9, representing the 9 days of Navaratri and the last day of the doll festival, which concluded on Tuesday with the conclusion of Dasara", said Gayatri D, a resident of Rajajinagar.

KAUSHIK JN

(1) Captured in the joyful embrace of Durga Puja, people revel in celebration, dancing to the rhythmic beats of music
(2) Vehicles adorned with flowers as part of Ayudha pooja
(3) The Gombe Habba, also known as the Festival of Dolls, captivated the community as families curated an enchanting array of dolls on multi-leveled platforms
(4) Durgotsav organised by Icon North, Thanisandra, Near Elements Mall

Thousands witness jamboo savari in Mysuru

In the heritage city of Mysuru, the highly anticipated Jamboo Savari took place on Tuesday, captivating the hearts of thousands. The procession featured a dozen elaborately adorned elephants, led by 'Abhimanyu,' carrying the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari, the revered deity of the Mysuru royals. The goddess's idol was placed on a majestic 750 kg howdah, known as "Ambari," adorned with gold. The magnificent procession commenced with CM Siddaramaiah conducting a traditional pooja to the 'Nandi Dhwaja' (Nandi Flag) at the Amba Vilas Palace, coinciding with the

auspicious 'Makara Lagna'. This parade featured a plethora of cultural groups, artists, and vibrant tableaux representing the diverse heritage and traditions of different districts, spanning a distance of roughly five kilometres before culminating at Bannimantap. - **BMB**

Rude shock: Woman alleges assault, cops ignore

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In a horrifying incident in Ejipura, a 20-year-old woman alleges that she was attacked by her roommate's boyfriend. The victim also claims that the female police officer handling her complaint made insensitive jokes and displayed discriminatory behaviour, purportedly influenced by the victim's North East Indian origin.

The victim alleges that she was brutally assaulted in her flat near the Ejipura bus stop when she answered her roommate's boyfriend's phone call.

"He made a phone call to his girlfriend (the victim's friend), but I picked it up because she was in the shower. I calmly explained that she was in the shower and would talk when she was out, and I cut the call. But somehow, he found it to be rude," the victim told BM. She explained that her response was misconstrued as rudeness, triggering a violent attack that left her with severe injuries.

Following the assault, she was rushed to St. John's Hospital for urgent medical care. But the horror didn't end there.

At the Vivek Nagar police station, where she went with her friends to file a report, the victim asserts that she faced further distress. She alleges that a police officer mocked her and displayed a dismissive attitude. She claimed that despite a language barrier (officers spoke in Kannada), their derogatory remarks were clear.

She also states that the police did not take her seriously.

"After the police inspector finally showed up after a few hours, we were able to get the go-ahead for the FIR. The station writer took several revisions and a painfully long time to put it together, but after close to 5 hours of perseverance, it was done. We got the FIR registered," said the source.

The FIR was finally registered under sections 506, 504, 323, and 354. But the woman claims that the follow-up has been poor.

When Bangalore Mirror reached out to the police officials, they asked for the complainant's details and said they would look into the matter.

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Lose the beastly accessory, please

Forest Department cracks down on tiger claw locket trend

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File photo of a tiger pelt seized from a poacher; possession of any parts of wild animals is a punishable offence

It has become a fashion for people to sport lockets made of tiger claws. However, for the last two days, the forest department has been hunting to find those sporting such lockets. Those sporting such lockets can even get jailed. Interestingly, even those posing pictures on social media wearing those lockets are now in the soup.

In fact, on Tuesday, the Forest department continued to book cases against those displaying tiger claws in their lockets. Two people were arrested in Chikkamagaluru for displaying tiger claws. The police also raided those selling tiger claws, but the accused escaped.

It all began with a dramatic turn of events on Monday when forest department officials apprehended a contestant from Bigg Boss Kannada for allegedly donning a tiger claw pendant. The arrest followed a complaint that Varthur Santhosh sported such a pendant on the telecasted show. A team led by Bengaluru Urban Deputy Conservator of Forests N Ravindra Kumar carried out the arrest on Sunday night at the show's shooting location. Forest department officials confirmed the tiger claw pendant, leading to Santhosh's arrest under the stringent Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) Kumar Pushkar explained, "Our team verified the tiger claw he was wearing. After confirming that it was a tiger claw, he was taken into custody, and interrogations are ongoing. The Wildlife Protection Act is quite strict on this. We will be seeking his judicial custody for a few days because we need to investigate the case." During questioning, Santhosh claimed to have purchased the tiger claw pendant near Karnataka's border with Tamil Nadu, in Hosur town, for Rs 20,000 about three years ago. Forest officials plan to verify his claims and conduct further interrogation. Santhosh has been remanded in 14-day judicial custody after being produced before a magistrate.

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre assured that legal action would be taken against the contestant once the seized property is confirmed to be a tiger's claw. He emphasised that the Forest Department would not tolerate illegal activities, and officers were empowered to take action without succumbing to pressure. A forest official said, "It is illegal to procure such items. However, it is very sad to know that many people are trying to display by posting photos on social media. This can have a negative effect as by posting such photos; they are not only promoting illegal trade but encouraging others to buy such lockets, which can create demands for these banned items. Hence, we are taking action."

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Is Jayanagar being left on road to ruin?

Frustrated citizens raise concerns about poor roads, footpaths, unhygienic conditions

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The footpath by RV Road Metro Station serves as an open-air toilet; a wire fence obstructs the path near 7th C Main, Jayanagar 4th Block

Jayanagar, renowned for being one of the city's earliest planned neighbourhoods and well-structured layouts, is losing its name and fame due to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) negligence in providing timely basic amenities.

Numerous complaints have arisen regarding the deteriorating state of roads and footpaths, urging the relevant authorities to take immediate action. An owner of a vacant site situated on 7th C Main Road is compelled to put up a wire fence on the footpath along the compound wall of the site. The purpose of the wire fence is to prevent lazy people, especially auto rickshaw drivers, from using the footpath to attend to nature's call.

"Most of the footpaths crave the attention of the BBMP authorities. Most are either unfit for pedestrians to walk on or on concrete slabs. Some roadside drains are covered with concrete slabs or used as footpaths. I think the BBMP authorities lack dedication and commitment to provide basic infrastructure here," said Jayaram S, a resident.

The footpath near RV Road Metro Station is in poor condition. No one knows when the last time the footpath was upgraded. Some auto rickshaw drivers convert the footpath into an open-air toilet. "It is a shame on those using the footpath to attend nature's call. The ugly sight of auto-rickshaw drivers attending the nature's call during broad daylight is an embarrassment for people, especially women, who want to visit RV Road Metro Station," said Krishne Gowda, a pedestrian.

Demanding the BBMP authorities to upgrade the footpath between the 36th Cross Road of Jayanagar 5th Block and RV Road Metro Station to benefit pedestrians, Mallanna Gowda, a pedestrian, has said the footpath is unfit for pedestrians to walk. "The BBMP authorities should keep the footpath clean. I want the BBMP health department to engage workers to remove garbage on the footpath. The BBMP has spent crores of rupees for asphalting the roads but has forgotten to improve and upgrade footpaths," said Mallanna Gowda.

> **"Most of the footpaths crave urgent attention. Most are either unfit for pedestrians to walk on or on concrete slabs**
> – Jayaram S, a resident

Recently, some of the Aam Aadmi Party leaders have performed pooja to potholes on the roads in Jayanagar. Meanwhile, Jayanagar MLA CK Ramamurthy has said that he has already demanded Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to construct toilets near the RV Road Metro Station. "A pay-and-use public toilet is under construction on the other side of the road. It will be ready for public use shortly," MLA Ramamurthy said.

AAP Bengaluru vice president Ashok Mruthyunjaya said the Shalini Ground Road has been in a mess for the last 5 years, and it is impossible to cross that road without getting hurt or damaging your car. "Unfortunately, our MP Tejasvi Surya's office is also on the same road. Being an MP, he couldn't influence BBMP authorities to get a basic road for his constituency, where his office is situated. I'm not sure who else can help fix this road. Hence, we prayed to god to save us from this road," said Ashok Mruthyunjaya.

Basavanagudi vs Dodda Ganapathi: Ward name battle heats up

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Residents of Basavanagudi are preparing to stage a protest on Thursday, October 26, in opposition to the BBMP's decision to rename their ward as Dodda Ganapathi. Basavanagudi and 14 other wards under BBMP's jurisdiction were subjected to this renaming in September, sparking controversy. However, the move has received much criticism as Basavanagudi is one of the first sanitary layouts, plots with conservancy lanes, to be developed in the late 1800s. It is now known for its old Bangalore charm and is adored by many. While Basavanagudi houses a Basava (the bull associated with Shiva) temple, it is also home to the Dodda Ganapathi temple, one of the oldest in the city.

Satyalaksmi Rao, president of the resident association, noted that the BBMP announced the delimitation to be complete on August 18 and allowed residents to put forth their objections in 15 days. "Even in the notification provided for residents to review and object, the ward's name remained Basavanagudi. However, on September 25, when the BBMP released the final notification of wards, we could not find the name anywhere on the gazette. When I checked for ward number 198, the number of Basavanagudi ward, it had been renamed to Doddaganapathi," she said.

Residents have been angered over the matter as they deem it unnecessary and unexpected. Satyalakshmi said that they have been conducting meetings and have held signature campaigns over the issue but are now set to have a peaceful march from Netkallappa Circle to Basava temple since there has been no response from the BBMP. The online petition started on October 20 over the matter has already received 577 signatures. The resident group plans to go to court if the matter remains unresolved after the protest.

The local MLA, Ravi Subramanya from BJP, is aware of the issue but has not done enough to change the situation, alleged Satyalakshmi. She further alleged that he has consented to the change of name, all while claiming to be unaware of the issue, and said that immediate action must be taken to revert the name back to its original. BBMP Chief Commissioner has said that the delimitation committee decided to rename Basavanagudi. The chief commissioner headed the committee and has the BDA and Bengaluru Urban deputy commissioners as members. The special commissioner (revenue) BBMP held its member-secretary post. The committee was appointed in June after the Congress government came into power and followed the HC's direction to complete the delimitation process in 12 weeks.

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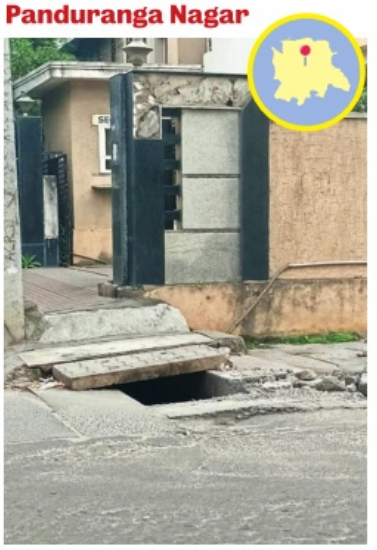
Risky drains

Panduranga Nagar



Open drains in Panduranga Nagar pose significant risks for pedestrians and motorists.

Electrical hazard

Gandhinagar

Exposed electrical connection boxes pose safety concerns in Gandhinagar, Mysore Bank Circle, and Pothys in Kempegowda Road.

Cow chaos

KR Puram

KR Puram market is overwhelmed by stray cows grazing on discarded vegetables; BBMP authorities struggle to penalise unauthorised vendors despite the proximity of the BBMP office.

Stay order of HC ignored, official clings to his post

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Seems like the Department of Labour does not think much of implementing, obeying, or following the High Court order. The appointment of Director for the Directorate of Employees State Insurance Scheme Medical Services is a clear indication of this. A government order has been issued by Hemalatha P, desk officer, Labour Department, in the name of Karnataka State Governor despite a stay order by the Division Bench of High Court.

The disturbing point is the officer issued the order on October 16 appointing Dr Narayanaswamy DE for the post of Director despite the Division Bench issuing a stay order on October 11 allowing the petitioner Dr Varadaraj V, In-charge Director, Directorate of Employees State Insurance Scheme Medical Services to continue in the office. The other disturbing thing is that Dr Narayanaswamy is said to have been present along with his advocate in the High Court when the Division Bench issued the stay order. The High Court also noted his presence. However, Dr Narayanaswamy did not inform the higher authorities, while receiving the appointment order, about the stay order nor did he decline the offer.

Hemalatha issued the order based on an order passed by Karnataka Administrative Tribunal (KAT) on October 6 in favour of Dr Narayanaswamy allowing him to continue as in-charge director.

High Court Division Bench stayed appointment on October 11

Dr Narayanaswamy approached the KAT against the order issued by Additional Chief Secretary, Labour Department, on July 14, 2023, appointing Dr Varadaraj V as in-charge director. The KAT passed an order in favour of Narayanaswamy and Dr Varadaraj V filed a writ petition in the High Court against the KAT order.

When asked whether he was aware of the stay order Dr Narayanaswamy told Bangalore Mirror that he was continuing as the In-charge director as per the Governor Order issued on October 16. "I will continue as the In-charge Director as long as the government allows me. I will quit if the government doesn't want me to continue in the post," Narayanaswamy said.

The High Court Division Bench has said, while hearing the petition filed by Dr Varadaraj, that the matter requires re-consideration of the merits of the case. "In view of the stand of the Government before the KAT that 3rd respondent (Dr Varadaraj) who is the petitioner herein has vast experience of handling big hospitals and has more than 27 years of experience of handling 100-bedded ESI Hospital, whereas, the applicant (Dr Narayanaswamy) has only 13 to 14 years experience in a small dispensary. As such, the 3rd respondent is more qualified to be appointed as in-charge Director and considering the same, arrangement has been made under Rule 68 of KVSRs and the same is not illegal," the Division Bench said while issuing the stay order.

When informed, Department of Labour Principal Secretary Mohammed Mohsin said that he has sent the file to Minister for Labour Santosh Lad for his approval. "I am aware of the stay order. I am waiting for the orders from Minister Santosh Lad in this regard," said Mohsin.

Expect more delay: No sign of suburban rail yet

50% of time's up but no on-ground work done, no visible progress on airport track

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Work on the first pier of the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project near Hebbal Railway station

It is almost halfway to the deadline for Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited's (K-RIDE) suburban rail project, but not much has moved on the ground. While Bengaluru's traffic situation worsens, the much-needed infrastructure work continues to drag.

According to updates by K-RIDE, the first of the 400 pillars of the elevated section of Corridor 2 (Byappanahalli to Chikkabanavara corridor -- the only corridor out of four sanctioned that has seen the light of day so far) will be physically visible near Hebbal station in the next two weeks. A progress review meeting was also held recently to discuss the work. However, experts say, in all likelihood, the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) is set to miss the October 2026 deadline set by the Centre to comply with construction of all four corridors.

"The project was sanctioned in October 2020 and 50% of the timeline has gone past. While on three corridors, no on-ground work has happened so far, it is around 10% on the second corridor. K-RIDE is way behind schedule and will surely not be able to meet the deadline announced by the Prime Minister. Moreover, not a single brick has been laid on the Airport corridor that was supposed to be ready by now," said Rajkumar Dugar, a public mobility proponent.

Public transport opponents opine that while there is a pent-up demand for public mobility, lack of interest and willingness on the part of public representatives have led to the project lag.

> **"K-RIDE must look at wrapping up all tender-related work for all the corridors and coaches in this calendar year. Work on all the corridors must begin on a war footing**
> –Public transport activist

"K-RIDE should have looked at utilising the existing rail network and should have looked at four independent corridors as the second phase of the project. Anyways the project is using SWR's existing infrastructure. Any delay in the project will only be adding more private vehicles on the city's roads as people have no alternatives. The recently launched purple line of BMRCL confirms a pent-up demand for public transport. If capacity enhancement of public transport is not done right now, there is no point in executing a project that will take a decade. By then another few lakh vehicles will be on the road," said Sandeep Anirudhan, a public transport proponent.

Way forward

Experts say the onus is on the state government to fill in all the vacancies in K-RIDE along with the appointment of a full-time MD to accelerate the pace of the project.

"K-RIDE must look at wrapping up all tender-related work for all the corridors and coaches in this calendar year. Work on all the corridors must begin on a war footing with constant monitoring and facilitation by senior officials and public representatives. It is high time that the agency gets a full-time MD as an organisation without a head is bound to slow down. However, the pace of the project only indicates that BSRP is not a priority for the government," said another city-based public transport activist.

Attack of the auto driver

Two days after a similar complaint, a man took to social media to claim that he had been assaulted by an auto driver. The victim Nanda Kishore said in a complaint to the Cottonpet police station, that the auto driver had pushed him off a moving bike. The victim said on social media that he was going through trauma and pain after the incident.

"After I fell down, the auto driver tried to snatch my mobile phone to break it. But by then, the patrolling police of Cottonpet police station came to rescue me and took down the details of the auto driver and asked him to come to the police station," claimed the victim.

However, the auto driver never showed up and is now absconding. **-BMB**

Past animosity: Bikes set ablaze

Unknown miscreants in Kothanur caused panic by setting two parked two-wheelers in front of a house afire. The victims, Pushpa and her son, went to the police and claimed that their neighbour had set their bikes on fire because of past animosity. The Kothanur police have registered a case.

A family discovered that two of their bikes were on fire after they hurried out of their home on hearing a siren on Monday. The two motorcycles had practically turned to ashes even as the neighbours rushed outside to put out the fire.

Pushpa has alleged that her neighbour Gowramma and her son Nanjunda Babu are behind the act of arson. **-BMB**

Armed forces job scam unearthed

Police and Military Intelligence have jointly uncovered a fake recruitment scam that allegedly duped 150 youngsters of Rs one crore promising them jobs in the Indian Armed Forces. Police have registered an FIR against 40-year-old Sivaraj Vatagal, a resident of Hubballi, who is a deserter of the Indian Army, and his accomplice Beemmava in connection with the case at Srirampura Police Station in Chitradurga. Items such as fake identity cards and army recruitment related documents were recovered from them, the Defence wing of the Press Information Bureau said in a release on Monday. "A Joint Operation was carried out by the Military Intelligence, Bengaluru, and Srirampura police team of Chitradurga district to apprehend the fraudster and his accomplice," it said.

BM NAVARANG 2023

Navarang with Bangalore Mirror

The enchanting allure of purple unfolded in Bengaluru, marking a special day of celebration with BM Navarang. While the Western Ghats witness the rare bloom of Neelakurinji flowers once every 12 years, Bengaluru experiences its own annual spectacle with the purple bloom of BM Navarang. Monday's festivities were a vibrant display of the city adorned in hues of purple, as women across Bengaluru showcased their unique and elegant purple attire, capturing the essence of the festival.

BM Navarang proved to be a resounding success this year, drawing immense participation and appreciation from the community. The response was overwhelming, with readers expressing gratitude to BM for organising this colourful initiative. As Dasara concludes, BM extends heartfelt thanks to every reader who contributed to the success of BM Navarang. The initiative has become a cherished tradition, and as we bid farewell to this year's festivities, rest assured that BM Navarang will return next year, bringing with it a fresh burst of colour and joy. Until then, stay connected with Bangalore Mirror, immerse yourself in our news, and let the vibrant spirit of BM Navarang resonate throughout the year.

BESCOM family members from Nagrabhavi

Vani Pearl Apartment, Uttarahalli

Mangala and friends, Sobha Apartment, Vajarahalli

Women in purple– Poornima and friends

Anusha, RR Nagar

Anu and Viju, Deepanjali Nagar

Swaramadurya by Latha Prashanth, Basavanagudi

Lata Idani, Indiranagar

Nanda and Manjula, BSK 1st Stage

Mirror subscribers, Basaveshwaranagar

Manjula Parimalan and friends

Purple beauties from SSG

Rani and friends, Kengeri

Tharalabalu Enclave– Yelahanka

Sudha & sisters, RT Nagar

Compost cooking is a big hit at Bannerghatta zoo

High demand for organic manure; three park workers sent for training in composting

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Encouraged by high demand for its organic manure, the Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) has decided to scale up the production of the environment-friendly fertiliser. To achieve this, BBP has begun training its workers in composting. Three BBP employees were recently deputed to the Biotechnology Centre of the Horticulture Department in Hulimavu for short-term training in producing sustainable and biodegradable fertiliser.

"Three BBP workers were sent to the Biotechnology Centre for training in composting. While we are in the process of standardising the procedure to produce organic manure at a large scale, we do not have trained manpower to do this job. The Biotechnology Centre is already composting and selling organic manure and thus we decided to use their expertise. We are scaling up the facility to meet the demand," said AV Surya Sen, deputy conservator of forests and executive director of BBP.

File photo of rescued elephants at the Bannerghatta Biological Park

> **"The Biotechnology Centre is already composting and selling organic manure and thus we decided to use their expertise. We are scaling up the facility to meet the demand** –AV Surya Sen, executive director BBP

While BBP started selling vermicompost in 1 kg, 3 kg, and 5 kg bags to farmers and visitors a month ago, park authorities have now decided to expand the production facility.

"We started generating organic manure from animal waste on a pilot basis nearly a month ago. However, it was being produced haphazardly. We were discarding tonnes of animal waste into a large pit, which was composted on its own, which we used to understand the demand. We will now be using the right methodology to create a superior product in a bigger facility. The staff has recently completed the training and we are preparing the production area. Since we are aiming at creating a refined product at a large scale, the process has to be standardised," added Sen.

Revenue push

The idea behind setting up the facility is to ramp up revenue and employment opportunities, say BBP authorities. Additionally, the project is also expected to manage tonnes of waste that is generated on the campus daily. According to the officials, while vermicompost is available everywhere, BBP's organic manure is expected to be of superior quality as it is being prepared from herbivores' dung such as that of elephants and deer.

Officials say with more and more people moving away from fertilizers and using organic manure at-home gardens, etc, the demand is expected to surge more over the coming days. While the product is not priced yet, BBP authorities indicated that it will cost nearly Rs 40 per kilogram.

BangaloreMirror
Go to the zoo, get vermicompost too
Bannerghatta Biological Park begins generating organic manure and selling it to farmers, visitors

BM had reported about BBP's new organic manure initiative on October 3

What's holding B'luru-Kadapa railway line up?

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The Bengaluru-Kadapa railway line has been held up due to 'non-cooperation' from neighbouring Andhra Pradesh and is not making any headway. This was revealed by Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in the Lok Sabha recently. According to the Vaishnaw, the Kadapa-Bengaluru (268 km) project was sanctioned in the budget on a cost-sharing basis with the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

The Andhra government was supposed to share 50% of the total project cost, which amounts to Rs 2705.98 crore. However, as of March 2023, only Rs 189.95 crore has been deposited by Andhra Pradesh towards their share. Moreover, the state has suggested a different alignment for the project, which led to the sanctioning of a survey for the new alignment between Muddanuru – Pulivendula – Mudigubba – Sri Satya Sai Prashanti Nilayam (110 kms) passing through YSR (Kadapa) District.

"Due to the non-deposition of the state's cost share by the Andhra Pradesh government, the execution of the project has been held up. The completion of railway projects depends on various factors, such as the timely deposition of state share, quick land acquisition, forest clearance, shifting of infringing utilities, and other statutory clearances. These factors, along with geological and topographical conditions, law and order situations, and climatic conditions, all influence the project's completion time. Therefore, it is difficult to ascertain a confirmed time frame for completion at this stage," the railway minister said recently in Lok Sabha.

He added that during 2014-23, 1,266 km sections (350 km New line and 916 km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Andhra Pradesh have been commissioned at an average rate of 140.67 km per year.

BM Education

Tailor-made engineering courses for working professionals

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Good news for working professionals: they can now pursue an engineering degree tailored to their schedules. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has granted permission for this course in 137 engineering and 174 diploma colleges across the country.

In Karnataka, eight engineering and 13 diploma colleges are authorised to offer courses for working professionals. The programme is designed to accommodate their needs, allowing them to choose from online, offline, and weekend courses. An engineering college principal expressed appreciation for this initiative, stating, "Thanks to these courses, working professionals can obtain their engineering degrees."

Professionals employed in registered industries/organisations within a 50 km radial distance from the institute are eligible to apply. They must have a minimum of one year of full-time or regular working experience, with qualifications equivalent to those eligible for lateral entry to the second year. The course duration matches that of lateral entry to the second year, with a total course duration of no less than three years. Classes are typically scheduled in the evening or at flexible, convenient timings, including weekends or holidays, aligning with industry timings.

Earlier this year, AICTE launched a curriculum for B.Tech Electronics VLSI Design and Technology and Diploma in IC Manufacturing. This course aims to provide a variety of employment roles with outstanding salary incentives for Indian students in global and Indian companies. The VLSI sector, being high-paying and resistant to automation, creates an environment for the semiconductor ecosystem. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the course launch,

emphasized India's goal to become a key partner in the global semiconductor supply chain.

The Semicon India program, with a total outlay of 76,000 crores, focuses on developing the semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem in India. The Chips to Startup (C2S) program, aligned with Semicon India, aims to train 85,000 engineers in ESDM disciplines over five years, with tie-ups established with 82 technical education institutes.

Last date extended

Bangalore University has said that the last date for submission of application for admission to PG Courses and B.P.Ed course at Bangalore University Departments/ Constituent College at Jnanabharathi Campus, PG centre at Ramanagara and in its Affiliated Colleges for the academic year 2023-24 through the UUCMS Online portal (https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in/Login/Index) has been extended till 27.10.2023 without penal fee and upto 31.10.2023 with penal fee of Rs.200/-. For more details, please visit the University website: https://bangaloreuniversity.karnataka.gov.in

Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI) is the process of creating an integrated circuit (IC) by combining many metal oxide silicon transistors onto a single chip. AICTE has launched the curriculum for B.Tech Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design & Technology) and Diploma in IC Manufacturing, offering flexibility for affiliated colleges, universities, and technical institutions.

Starting salaries for a fresher role in VLSI companies vary from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh per annum, with an average annual salary of Rs 14 lakh. Average annual salaries in multinational companies for beginners range from Rs 30 lakh to Rs 80 lakh. An AICTE official stated, "This course will provide a variety of employment roles featuring outstanding salary incentives for Indian students in global and Indian companies. The VLSI sector is a high-paying industry and immune to automation, creating an environment for the semiconductor ecosystem to set up and scale up."

BIFFES cash prize held back 6 months after festival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With the model code of conduct for Karnataka Assembly elections coming into effect, Karnataka Chalanachitra Academy, which organised the festival in association with the state government, did not distribute cash awards among the winners.

The commissioner or the secretary of the Information and Public Relations department should have taken measures to distribute cash awards among the winners as soon as the new government was formed in the state but they allegedly did not bother even to receive petitions from the award winners.

"I am happy with the state government honouring me with the Lifetime Achievement Award but unhappy over the inordinate delay in giving me the cash award. I contacted the secretary of the Information and Public Relations department but in vain. I shall visit the Information and Public Relations department and inquire what is stopping the officials from giving the cash award," said veteran actor Doddanna.

Director BS Lingadevaru whose Kannada movie Viraatpura Viragi was adjudged as the third best movie in Kannada category, told Bangalore Mirror that he was disappointed with the negligence and apathy of Information and Public Relations department officials. "They do not have the courtesy even to hear our problems. They said they are busy with official work. A group of directors visited the Information and Public Relations department to discuss some issues but they said that they are occupied with official work. With new officials coming to the department on transfer or on promotion, it has become a tough task for Kannada directors to meet the officials and discuss problems," said Lingadevaru.

A producer-cum-director, on the condition of anonymity, blamed the government for transferring IPS officers to the Information and Public Relations department: "They do not know how to treat people who visit the Information and Public Relations department. They also do not know how to solve the problems of those who visit them. A few officials are given too many responsibilities. For example, Jayaram, the secretary of Information and Public Relations is the secretary for Chief Minister and Chairman for the BDA. How do you expect such an officer to focus on issues related to Kannada film industry?"

Meanwhile, Information and Public Relations department secretary N Jayaram said that he did not receive any representation or complaints on the delay in disbursing the cash awards to the winners. "I am yet to look into the file related to cash awards for the winners of the Bengaluru International Film Festival 2023," said Jayaram.

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Rural to urban: Cost of transformation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bengaluru Rural, thus, experienced substantial urbanisation, which has significantly altered the land use pattern.

"In 2001, vegetation dominated the area... agriculture was the second most extensive land use, covering an area of 838.88 sq km (36.38%). The other land cover classes included barren land covering 465.25 sq km (20.18%), settlements, and water bodies... In the year 2021, agriculture surpassed all other land uses in the region, covering an area of 1,254.25 sq km (54.40%), followed by barren land, covering an area of 584.96 sq km (25.37%). Significant growth was also seen in the settlement area, which now occupies 15.01% of the study area. On the other hand, vegetation decreased to 109.04 sq km (4.73%), and water bodies now cover just 11.17 sq km (0.48%)," noted the study.

Researchers highlighted that better land use planning and management are urgently required to ensure that economic development is environmentally friendly and sustainable. The environment and the socioeconomic circumstances of the region may be significantly impacted by these changes.

"The district can achieve a balance between economic development and environmental conservation, leading to a more sustainable and prosperous future, with proper land use planning and management," noted the study.

Experts said such a high rate of urbanisation will only create havoc by limiting resource availability and aggravating regional impact.

"If not checked in time, it will affect the livelihood and health of people. We need to conserve ecologically fragile regions on priority so we can conserve water and sequester carbon to mitigate climate change. Land degradation and changes in land use land cover patterns not only lead to higher emissions of greenhouse gases but also bring down carbon sequestration capability. Deforestation further leads to the release of carbon stored in the soil and acts as a double whammy. We need to maintain 33% green cover everywhere to ensure there are enough resources to sustain us," said Dr TV Ramachandra, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

The analysis conducted by researchers from GITAM University, Bengaluru, and Kabul Polytechnic University, Kabul, Afghanistan was published in Discrete Dynamics in Nature and Society Journal.

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I, Shahwana Banu (new name) previously called as Shavana Banu (old name) W/O, Hajee Abdul Mohammed Altaf R/o No 140, A Block, 11th Cross, Rashad Nagar, Ac Post, Bangalore - 560045 have changed my name to Shahwana Banu for all purposes.

I Mahmooda begum D/O, sabeer ahamed R/o #600,21st Cross,1st Block,rt Nagar, Bangalore 560032 have changed my name to Shabbir Ahmed for all purposes

HEALTH TIP: Dark chocolate is a healthy snack on its own that can satisfy sweet cravings while providing health benefits

Fruits like apples, bananas, and berries are naturally sweet and rich in vitamins and minerals

BangaloreMirror | 9
Wednesday, October 25, 2023
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Forgotten half

Women left out of drug research, clinical trials

Neha Powar (35) was put on blood thinners and medicines for cholesterol and hypertension after testing positive for a cardiac stress test.

However, she consulted another cardiologist when she gained weight abnormally. Much to her relief and surprise, her chest pain was diagnosed as an anxiety attack and not a cardiovascular issue.

Curiously, several reports of women being misdiagnosed with stress or anxiety when they actually had heart disease have also emerged.

Research shows women are more likely to be misdiagnosed than men when it comes to heart attacks. This is mostly attributed to 'atypical' symptoms of a heart attack exhibited by women, including fatigue, sleep disturbance, shortness of breath, nausea and non-chest pain symptoms such as back and abdominal pain.

In addition to misdiagnosis, a study conducted across 17 Indian hospitals between 2011 and 2015 found significant gender disparities in cardiovascular care. Despite having higher comorbidities such as hypertension, women were less likely to get the correct treatment. As a result, women in India as well as globally fare worse in the event of cardiovascular diseases, with mortality being higher for them.

One of the main reasons for the worse outcomes is that the female subjects are underrepresented in research that studies disease mechanism and treatment. This can be traced to a male-default bias, its roots going all the way back to Greece of the fourth century BCE, where Aristotle referred to women as "mutilated males", thus setting precedence for the male body being the default.

Though researchers in the 21st century no longer see females as mutilated males, there is gross underrepresentation of the female body in medical textbooks and biomedical research. A study found that when sex was specified, 80 per cent publications studied only male animals, 17 per cent studied only female animals, and only 3 per cent studied both sexes. Experiments are often conducted on male animals and the results are extrapolated to females.

Historically, male animals were used more as they were thought to be less variable due to the absence of monthly cycles. But one cannot exclude female models in research because of their monthly cycles as women who will benefit from such a research do face monthly cycles.

During her PhD at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, Dr Kanika Gupta realised how male animals were preferred for research.

She says, "I had also been using only male animals like everybody else. Contrary to the spirit of scientific questioning, I had adopted the excuse that females cannot be used because their hormonal cycle would introduce variability in results."

When she looked up literature to understand the bias, she found limited but impactful studies that showed the female hormonal cycle was not entirely responsible for sex differences. The studies highlighted the fundamentally flawed expectation of researchers that females will exhibit male-like behaviour in response to the same stimulus, which motivated her to study sex-specific responses.

> **Exclusion of females from research may have far-reaching consequences such as misdiagnosis and wrong medical treatment of women**

"It also cautioned me on unfounded theories that prevail in the scientific community," she says. Her guide and labmates were supportive towards challenging the norm of using primarily male animals. Her PhD work published in 2021 discussed how male and female rats responded to a single traumatic experience. She was surprised by both similarities and differences in the results. While male rats showed anxiety-like behaviour and neuronal activation in the amygdala region of the brain 10 days after a trauma, female rats did not have any of these effects.

"Until we do not find the changes that female rats undergo upon a traumatic experience, it will not be fair to extend our findings from male studies to develop interventions for human disorders such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder prevalent in both men and women," says Dr Gupta.

After her PhD, Dr Gupta, now a lead neuroscientist in a team working on smart EEG-wearables in India, worked towards equal representation of males and females in her postdoc lab's projects at UCLA.

Though there is an increase in research about sex differences in physiological response, such research may not be free of gender bias. According to Dr Gupta, there are some male scientists doing pathbreaking research in sex differences, whose papers she has used as a basis for her research.

Journal editors have also recognised the ethical and practical problems of excluding females.

The European Association of Science Editors established a Gender Policy Committee assigned to develop guidelines for reporting of sex and gender equity in research, recommending journal editors to ask authors to report their research segregated by sex and gender.

"I have not heard of any such regulatory guidelines in Indian research funding agencies yet," says Dr Gupta, whose former guide confirmed the same.

"Journals request a statement on the sexes of animals used in experiments, as was the case in our studies," says Bhavana Muralidharan, a faculty member at Bengaluru's Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine. Her lab focuses on studying the mechanistic basis of neural development, particularly the role of chromatin regulation in this process and its disruption in neurodevelopmental disorders.

Dr Muralidharan's group utilises mouse embryos for their experiments. Since sexing is not possible through external observation during embryonic stages, it is expected that the embryos consist of a combination of both sexes (probability being 50:50).

She has not observed different experimental results for different sexes so far. She says that unless there is a scientific need to study only one sex for specific sex-linked disorders, both male and female models should be used.

Dr Gupta cites the example of Ambien, a drug tested only on male animals. When it became available in the market, it was prescribed to both men and women at the same dosage. Only after women reported severe side effects like disorientation in the morning and around 700 road accidents in the US, it was found that women needed only half the dose that men were prescribed.

Even at the level of clinical trials, there has been gross underrepresentation of female subjects. After the Thalidomide tragedy of 1962, the US Food and Drug Administration in 1977 essentially banned women of child-bearing potential in that country from participating in phase one and early phase two clinical trials, unless the trial was to test a drug for a life-threatening condition.

Though it was eventually reversed in 1993, countless drugs were put in the market through clinical research, with drugs studied only in male bodies, and the results extrapolated to females, with dosage often adjusted to body weight. However, other sex differences such as endogenous hormone levels, weight, muscle mass and metabolic enzymes also impact the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties of drugs, implying that drugs could have drastically different effects in males and females. Even when females are included in clinical trials, it happens only in phase three, where the study is done on 1,000 to 3,000 participants.

Inclusive research is important not only for doing better science, but also to ensure that biomedical research helps women.

–IANS

All you need to know about...

Driver of obesity

Main culprit
Nutritional experts have for years debated on the primary culprit for increasing obesity. While diets that are high in fat and carbohydrates contribute to the condition, it turns out, fructose may be one true driver of obesity, according to a study.

What fructose does
According to Richard Johnson, from University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, the primary problem in obesity is fructose -- which is present in table sugar and high fructose corn syrup. Fructose can also be made in the body from carbohydrates (particularly glucose). When fructose is metabolised, it lowers the active energy in the body (known as ATP, or adenosine triphosphate) which causes hunger and food intake.

Energy balance theory
What Johnson calls the "fructose survival hypothesis" brings together most of the dietary hypotheses of obesity, including the two that have been most incompatible with each other -- the energy balance theory, which proposes too much food (and primarily fat) drives obesity, and the carbohydrate-insulin model, which puts carbohydrates at the centre of weight gain.

Lowers metabolism
"Fructose is what triggers our metabolism to go into low power mode and lose our control of appetite, but fatty foods become the major source of calories that drive weight gain,"Johnson said.

Obesity risks
Obesity is a known risk factor for various diseases including heart disease, diabetes, cancer and dementia. Data from the World Health Organisation (WHO) shows that worldwide, more than 1 billion people are obese -- 650 million adults, 340 million adolescents, and 39 million children."

–IANS

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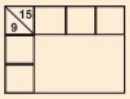
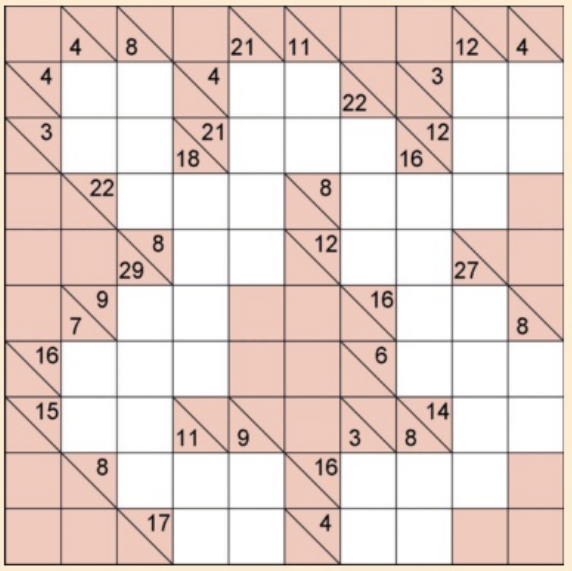
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

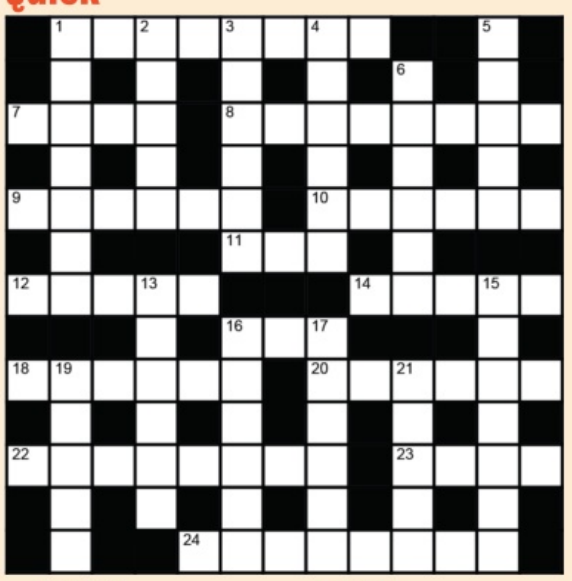


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Hauling or pulling force (8)
7 Birds lay them (4)
8 Destitute (8)
9 __ __ nothing : be ruthless? (4,2)
10 Forge (6)
11 So far (3)
12 Waste matter (5)
14 Minimal (5)
16 Microwave Landing Sys. (3)
18 Famous landmark on the corner of Kasturba road and Vittal Mallya Road (2,4)
20 Squabbled (6)
22 Leonardo da Vinci's painting (4,4)
23 Acquires or receives (4)
24 Hooked (8)

DOWN

1 More close-fitting (7)
2 His fables are moralistic and famous (5)
3 A score and ten? (6)
4 Most curious or unusual (6)
5 One of the twelve in a year (5)
6 Set on fire? (6)
13 Relating to the backbone (6)
15 Perspired (7)
16 Infinite amount (6)
17 Big-game hunt (6)
19 Anchored floats (5)
21 Leg of lamb (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS W

MVUTOIFJ PIF RVF NJTB CNIY NC UYYNIRPTURB RVPR QF MPJ ZF GXIF NC.

Linemaro

Because of you, I l augh a little harder, cry a little l ess, and smile a lot more

Mindchow

When thou art above measure angry, bethink thee how momentary is man's life

Joke of the day

I don't have a solution, but I do admire the problem

Loop

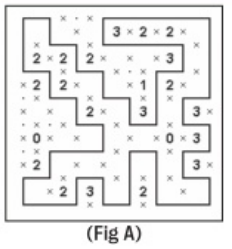
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

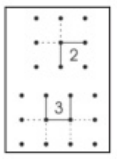
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

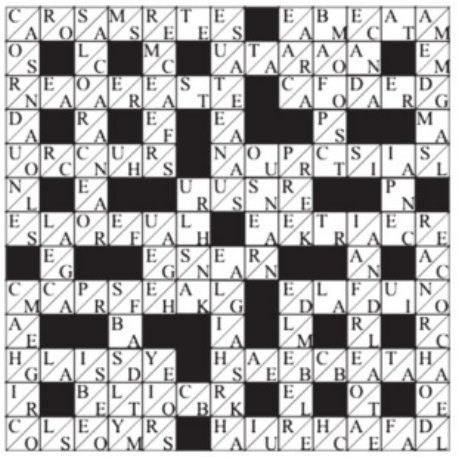


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				Y
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 As cub; 6 Lunar;
7 Say Ms; 8 A rale;
9 Scowl

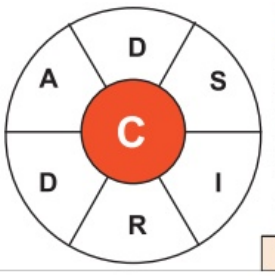
DOWN

1 Camus; 2 Coral;
3 Us wen; 4 Baals;
5 Lyra's

Mensapuzzle

What percentage of the figure is shaded?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3			9			5	
		2		4		8		
		6	5		7	2		
	1		2		8		6	
7				3				9
	5		4		9		8	
		5	8		1	6		
		4		5		9		
	8			6			2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 14
3 6 8 9

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 9
2 2 4 7

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 7
3 4 6 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

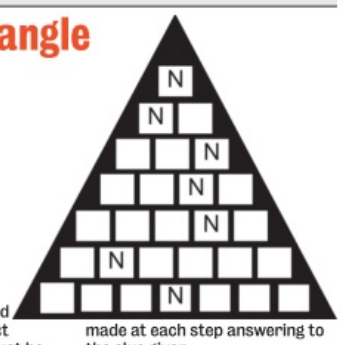
Differences: 1. Board is longer. 2. Hand is moved. 3. Fence in background is shorter. 4. Window is different. 5. House is missing. 6. Ear is smaller.

Riddler

By changing the second letter of each word below, you can make another valid word. Can you change each word such that the second letters will reveal an eleven letter word when read downwards? Therefore, what now reads AWPYRNUCEPA will be a real word. BAKE SWAP OPAL DYED ARKS SNOW LUMP ACES MELT SPUN RANT

Alpha triangle

1 One of the poles
2 Xi preceder
3 Our star
4 Moves fast
5 Wrecks
6 Influx
7 Equip or outfit



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

THAT ROCK HAS BEEN IN THAT SPOT FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS
YEP, AND WILL BE THERE FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG
SIGH, DON'T TELL ME THAT ★@#!· GLACIER IS LATE AGAIN!
7-28
Yates/Casson

Bizarrotrip

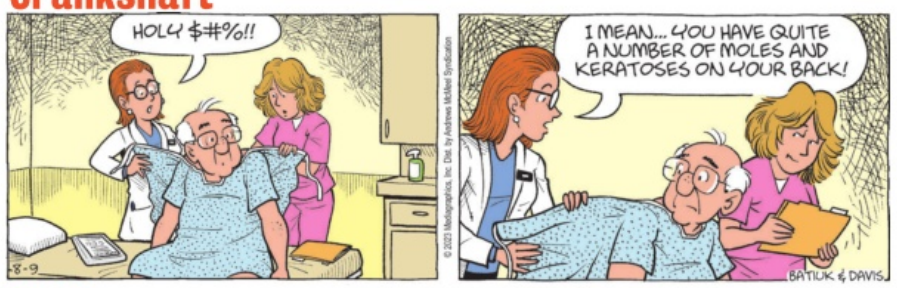
BIZARRO.COM
A blend of raisins & corn syrup, aged in plastic & cellared under my bunk.
Wayno & Piraro 8-11-23
INMATE
13756
PENAL GRIGIO

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

THERE'S THIS BOY WHO LIKES ALL THE STUFF I LIKE. BUT HE ALWAYS ACTS LIKE A JERK WHEN I KNOW MORE THAN HIM.
HOW DO I FIX THIS?
MAYBE HE'S A LITTLE BIT JEALOUS AND DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO SEE YOU AS A FRIEND INSTEAD OF AS COMPETITION.
WELL, THAT SOUNDS LIKE HIS PROBLEM TO FIX, NOT MINE.
YOU'RE EXACTLY RIGHT.
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft



Mutts

WELL, GUYS, IT'S TIME FOR ME AND MOOCH TO GO BACK HOME AND GET ON WITH OUR DAILY LIVES.
DO YOU HAVE AN OCEAN THERE?
No.
GOOD LUCK.
mutts.com

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may feel healthy, and old health issues may now be cured. The amount that was stuck somewhere may likely be recovered now. You may also apply for a loan to buy some luxury-related items.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by Jupiter, which may give you confidence. You may be able to make important decisions confidently. You are also decisive, so you may seize opportunities without second thoughts. You may likely spend money on family and friends. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments. Job aspirants may find a suitable job with the help of friends.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may have a dull feeling, and you may not enjoy your day. You may be a victim of arrogance, which may affect both your professional and domestic life. You may internally feel a lack of confidence, which may prevent you from doing something creative at work.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel energetic, and you may perform efficiently at work. Your hard work may pay off, boosting your confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved now. Your meeting with some influential person may expand your network.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, making you happy. You are likely to secure a big order with the help of your communication skills. You are polite with the people around you, and you may make some difficult decisions in your business with the assistance of your colleagues.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, making it a good day for you. You have good vitality, and you may enjoy your work, along with romantic moments with your spouse, which can improve domestic harmony. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project, and your perfection may help you design the flow chart. Job seekers will find a suitable job, while love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be disappointed. You are advised to control your arrogance, as otherwise, you may face losses due to your words when talking with anyone. Lovebirds should be careful in their discussions to avoid affecting their relationship.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, there may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest some capital in your business, increasing liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, enhancing harmony in your family life. Singles may find a suitable match. Love birds may make decisions about getting married, and students will be blessed by good karma.

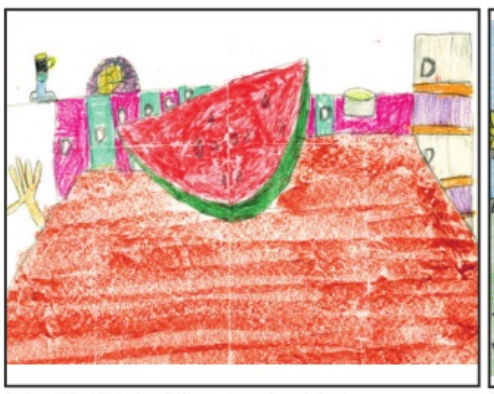
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be very happy, as your losses may turn into profits. Your seniors may be happy and appreciate your work. You may experience changes in your position or responsibilities at work in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and love birds may make important decisions regarding marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, situations are under control, and you may feel better. You may plan for overseas travel, and your network may help you on the work front. There may be an increase in domestic harmony. You may be more creative and bring some artefacts or creative items for your family or office. You may also plan to watch movies or engage in other entertainment with friends or family.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
At the beginning of the week, you can expect financial gains and a balance between your earnings and expenses, boosting your bank balance. You are likely to perform better in your job, as your boss may assign you new responsibilities related to promotions. You will recover money from your lenders and gain control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Your health will also improve.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may plan to renovate your house and buy items to decorate it, maintaining your social status. There may be some harmony with your spouse, enhancing domestic life. Disputes with friends, co-workers, and partners may be settled. You may receive good news related to litigations.

KIDZONE



Omkar Milind Mahafan, 7 Years, Jnanodaya School

Swetha V, 13 Years,Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(5-3×1 + 6)·2 - 400 =
(15 + 6)·2 - 400 =
(21)·2 - 400 =
41

BULL'S EYE
acid, acrid, card, DISCARD, scar

FAST FIVE

S	C	U	B	A
O	U	L	N	A
M	A	S	S	Y
A	R	E	A	L
C	O	W	L	S

RIDDLER
Investigate; bike, snap, oval, deed, asks, stow, limp, ages, malt, stun, rent.

STRIKE OUT

C	L	O	Y	S		A	I	R	H	E	A	D		
	I		B	L	O	C	K		E		T		E	
G	L	I	D	E		S	A	B	A	T	H			
A		A		A		M		L			C			
M	A	R	S	H	A	L		E	L	F	I	N		
	G			G	N	A	R			N		A		
E	A	R	F	U	L		E	E	R	I	E	R		
N		E		U	S	S	R		P					
O	C	C	C	U	R		N	U	P	T	I	A	L	
D		R		E		A		S			A		L	
N	E	A	R	E	S	T		C	O	D	E	D		
O		C		M		A	R	O	N		E			
C	O	S	S	E	T	S		A	B	E	A	M		

QUICK

														S
													Y	L
M	O	N	A	L	I	S	A		G	E	T	S		
	U		N		R		F		I		A			
U	B	C	I	C	I	T	Y		A	R	G	U	E	D
		P		M	L	S					W			
D	R	O	S	S		L	E	A	S	T				
	E				Y	E	T		T					
S	T	O	P	A	T		S	M	I	T	H	Y		
	H		O		R	E		N		T				
E	G	G	S		I	N	D	I	G	E	N	T		
	I		E		H		D		I		O			
T	R	A	C	T	I	O	N		M					

MENSA PUZZLE
5/8 or 0.625 or 62.5 per cent

QUOTE UNCODE
Children are the only form of immortality that we can be sure of.

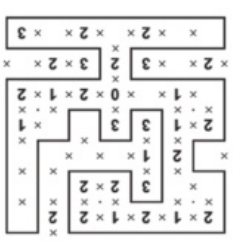
SUDOKU

3	8	1	9	6	4	5	2	7
2	6	4	7	5	3	9	1	8
9	7	5	8	2	1	6	3	4
6	5	3	4	1	9	7	8	2
7	2	8	6	3	5	1	4	9
4	1	9	2	7	8	3	6	5
1	4	6	5	8	7	2	9	3
5	9	2	3	4	6	8	7	1
8	3	7	1	9	2	4	5	6

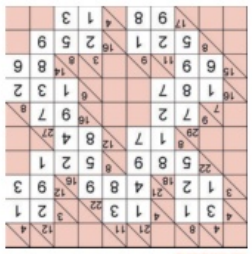
ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, Nu, Sun, Runs, Rules, Inrush, Furnish.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 - 6 + 3 + 9 = 14
Medium
2 x 4 x 2 - 7 = 9
Hard
4 x 6 - 3 / 3 = 7

LOOP



KAKURO



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Enough said

Malaika on rumours and work goals

Arjun Kapoor and Malaika Arora have been grabbing headlines for their alleged break-up.

The couple however chose to remain mum over the rumours. In a recent interview with TOI, the actress opened up about the breakup rumours with Arjun Kapoor. Malaika shared that she is at that stage where she has spoken when she had to speak. The actress further added that she doesn't need to clarify anything because whatever has to be said has already been said.

When asked if she feels that her ability to act hasn't been utilised for a large-scale film, the actress revealed that she has never seen herself as an actor, and never wanted to be one. The actress further added that she has never made a choice of doing a particular role. However, she still believes if she ever gets any opportunity where she feels that she could do justice to a role, she will take that up

On October 23, Malaika celebrated her 48th birthday. Taking to Instagram, Malaika dropped a string of pictures which she captioned, "As the sun sets on another year & I turn 48, (in my favourite bathrobe) I am grateful for the peace, my people and my calm that has been my companion throughout this journey. Sitting here, each moment feels like a gentle whisper, guiding me towards self-discovery and inner strength. Here's to the soothing whispers of the breeze, the mesmerizing sunsets that reflect the promise of new beginnings, and the warmth of the people who have made my life beautiful. Once again, grateful for the life I have got to live so far and hopeful for the life ahead. Happy birthday to me!" **-ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Behind the bar scene

Nischit Korodi is playing a hero for the masses with Supplier Shankara. Nischit plays a supplier for a bar in the film. Chandrasekhar and Narendra Singh, who have bankrolled the movie under the Trinetra Films banner, released its trailer recently.

"Supplier Shankar is my third movie and it has comedy, sentiments, love, and suspense. I thank director Ranjit Singh Rajput for selecting a good script," said Nischit.

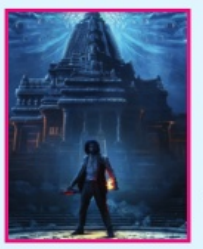
Deepika Aradhya is paired opposite Nischit. "I play a teacher in the movie," said Deepika.

Rajput debuts as an independent director in Sandalwood with this film.

"We began shooting in February 2022 and wrapped it up in August this year. I have written its script. I thank Nischit who worked hard. A majority of its cast are newcomers," the director said.

Father to direct son

Ravi Shankar, who is popularly known as Bommali in Telugu film industry and is famous for his sterling performance in Sudeep-starrer Kempegowda, is launching his son Advay as hero with Subrahmanyaa. The movie is expected to be made in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi. The movie's poster was launched on the occasion of Dasara.



Subrahmanyaa's poster has some spectacular visuals, indicating the grand production and technical standards. As the poster suggests the movie has multiple devotional elements. It shows Lord Subrahmanya Swamy's temple and his vehicle (Vahanam) the Peacock. The lead Advay looks stylish and is seen carrying a flambeau in one hand and a mysterious looking book in the other. The story demands high-end VFX.

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